

***On October 1, 2002, more people than ever
will become eligible for the FOOD CARD.***

PAID FOR BY THE FOOD CARD

**You pride yourself on doing things
right — working hard, feeding your
family and building your future.
Now there's a plus for doing things
right. It's the **FOOD CARD**.**

The Food Stamp Program's *FOOD CARD*:

- ▶ helps you add more healthy food to your meals,
- ▶ leaves you more money for other essentials like rent, clothing, utility bills,
- ▶ is as easy to use as a credit card, and it's *free*.



Over 800,000 New Yorkers qualify for the *FOOD CARD* but don't know it, including:

- ▶ workers and the temporarily unemployed,
- ▶ the elderly and disabled, and
- ▶ immigrants.

It Pays to Check Out the Food Stamp Program.

1-866-FOOD-NYC (1-866-366-3692)

? Is it True That Now You Can Earn More and Still Be Eligible For The FOOD CARD?

YES. As of October 1, 2002, income guidelines have been changed and you can earn more and still be eligible for the *FOOD CARD*. (See Income Chart)

? Are More Immigrants Now Eligible For The FOOD CARD?

YES. The following groups may be eligible for the *FOOD CARD*:

- ✓ **As of 10/1/02**, qualified disabled immigrants who receive a disability benefit regardless of date of entry into the U.S.
- ✓ **As of 4/1/03**, qualified legal immigrants who have been in the U.S. for five (5) years.
- ✓ **As of 10/1/03**, qualified legal immigrant children regardless of date of entry into the U.S.

? Do I Have To Apply For Public Assistance Before Getting The FOOD CARD?

NO. Applying for public assistance is your choice and is not a requirement for getting the *FOOD CARD*. If you have no income, you may still apply.

? If I Own A House Or A Car, Can I Get The CARD?

YES. Individuals can own or buy a home in which they live and still get the *FOOD CARD*. You can also own a car and be eligible to receive the *CARD*. The Food Stamp Program does not require a person to sign away their home.

? Where Can I Apply For The FOOD CARD?

You can apply at any Food Stamp Program office in the five

boroughs. To make it easier for you, some offices are open evenings and on Saturdays.

If your income is less than or the same as the amounts in the chart, you should apply today!

? Will Applying For The FOOD CARD Make it More Difficult For Me to become a U.S. Citizen?

NO. Applying for the *FOOD CARD* will have no effect on your application to become a citizen of the United States.

? Do The Elderly Receive Only \$10 Per Month?

Most people 60 years old or over, who are eligible for the *FOOD CARD*, receive more than \$10 a month in food benefits. In New York City the average monthly benefit for fiscal year 2001 was \$94 per person.

? Must Everyone I Live With Apply For The FOOD CARD As A Group?

NO. If you are over 22 years old and you purchase and prepare your own food, you may be able to apply for your own *FOOD CARD*. Talk to a Food Stamp Program worker about this.

**The MOST INCOME You Can Earn (before taxes)
And Be Eligible For The FOOD CARD**

(As of October 1, 2002)

Household Size	Per Year	Per Month	Bi-Weekly	Per Week
1	\$ 11,518	\$ 960	\$ 442	\$ 222
2	\$ 15,522	\$ 1,294	\$ 596	\$ 299
3	\$ 19,526	\$ 1,628	\$ 750	\$ 376
4	\$ 23,530	\$ 1,961	\$ 903	\$ 453
5	\$ 27,534	\$ 2,295	\$ 1,057	\$ 530
6	\$ 31,538	\$ 2,629	\$ 1,210	\$ 607
7	\$ 35,542	\$ 2,962	\$ 1,364	\$ 684
8	\$ 39,546	\$ 3,296	\$ 1,518	\$ 761

There is no income cap if someone in your household is elderly or disabled.

It Pays to Check Out the Food Stamp Program.

1-866-FOOD-NYC (1-866-366-3692)

Food Card Facts

- 1) The FOOD CARD is designed to add more healthy food to your family's diet and leave you with more money each month to do the right things with your family.
- 2) Your resources (e.g., savings) must be under \$2,000 to qualify for the FOOD CARD. If someone in your household is Elderly (60+), the resource limit is \$3,000.
- 3) Immigrants with U.S.-born children and others can apply for the FOOD CARD without fear.
- 4) The FOOD CARD is easy to use and works like a credit card for food item purchases.

If you are receiving Food Stamps, you do not need to apply. If you are receiving Cash Assistance without Food Stamps, you may be eligible for the FOOD CARD. Contact your public assistance worker.

Call 1-866-FOOD-NYC (1-866-366-3692) today.
You'll be surprised who qualifies.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL FOOD FORCE AT COMMUNITY FOOD RESOURCE CENTER
(212) 894-8060**

INFORMATION PREPARED BY
COMMUNITY FOOD RESOURCE CENTER
www.cfrcnyc.org

Funding provided by the New York City Council;
New York City Human Resources Administration,
Office of Food Programs and Policy Coordination;
and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

It Pays to Check Out the Food Stamp Program.

1-866-FOOD-NYC (1-866-366-3692)

